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In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
- optics adapted for focusing on a layer of an information storage media;
- a symmetrical optical pulse generator, coupled with the layer through the optics, for generating a train of optical pulses, wherein each pulse is substantially symmetrical and has a respective temporal placement within the train and has a respective pulse duration;
- a generator of an analog duration control voltage having a variable voltage amount, coupled with the optical pulse generator for varying the respective pulse duration of each substantially symmetrical pulse in accordance with the variable voltage amount.
- 2. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in 1 further comprising a controller coupled with the generator for variably controlling the variable voltage amount, and in turn the respective pulse duration, in accordance with a WRITE STRATEGY that is based on a physical property of the layer of the information storage media.
- 3. (Original) An apparatus as in 1 further comprising a generator of an analog temporal placement control voltage having a variable voltage amount, coupled with the optical pulse generator for varying the respective temporal placement of each pulse in accordance with the <u>variable voltage</u> amount of the analog temporal placement control voltage.

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4. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in 3 further comprising a controller coupled with the generator for variably controlling the amount of the analog temporal placement control voltage, and in turn the respective temporal placement, in accordance with a WRITE STRATEGY that is based on a physical property of the layer of the information storage media.



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- 5. (Original) An apparatus as in 1 wherein the apparatus includes an analog duration comparator having a pair of inputs and an output, wherein one of the inputs is coupled with the generator of the analog duration control voltage.
- 6. (Original) An apparatus as in 5 further comprising a duration control capacitor coupled with another of the inputs.
- 7. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in 6 further

 15 comprising timing control logic coupled with the output of the analog duration comparator, and further coupled with the duration control capacitor for changing a charge state thereof based upon the output of the analog duration comparator.
- 8. (Original) An apparatus as in 3 wherein the apparatus includes an analog temporal placement comparator having a pair of inputs and an output, wherein one of the inputs is coupled with the generator of the analog temporal placement control voltage.
- 9. (Original) An apparatus as in 8 further comprising a temporal placement control capacitor coupled with another of the inputs.

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- 10. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in 9 further comprising timing control logic coupled with the output of the analog temporal placement comparator, and further coupled with the temporal placement control capacitor for changing a charge state thereof based upon the output of the analog temporal placement comparator.
- 11. (Currently amended) An apparatus as in 3 further comprising:

an analog duration comparator having a pair of inputs and an output, wherein one of the inputs is coupled with the generator of the analog duration control voltage;

an analog temporal placement comparator having a pair of inputs and an output, wherein one of the inputs is coupled with the generator of the analog temporal placement control voltage; and

a state device having: a set input coupled with the output of the analog temporal placement comparator; a reset input coupled with the output of the analog duration comparator; and a state output coupled with the optical pulse generator for determining the respective temporal placement and the respective pulse duration of each pulse in the train of optical pulses.

12. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

providing optics adapted for focusing on a layer of an information storage media and a symmetrical optical pulse generator, coupled with the layer through the optics;

generating a train of optical pulses, wherein each pulse is substantially symmetrical and has a respective temporal placement within the train and has a respective pulse duration;

generating an analog duration control voltage having a

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variable voltage amount for varying the respective pulse duration of each substantially symmetrical pulse in accordance with the <u>variable voltage</u> amount.

- 13. (Currently amended) A method as in 12 further comprising controlling the <u>variable voltage</u> amount, and in turn the respective pulse duration, in accordance with a WRITE STRATEGY that is based on a physical property of the layer of the information storage media.
- 14. (Currently amended) A method as in 12 further comprising generating an analog temporal placement control voltage having a variable voltage amount, coupled with the optical pluse generation pulse generator for varying the respective temporal placement of each pulse in accordance with the amount of the analog temporal placement control voltage.
- .15 15. (Original) A method as in 14 further comprising controlling the amount of the analog temporal placement control voltage, and in turn the respective temporal placement, in accordance with a WRITE STRATEGY that is based on a physical property of the layer of the information storage media.